

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03567 041601Z

44

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 /076 W  
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R 032145Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8993  
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3567

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y MRN 3567 VICE 3667

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, UN, BG, IN

SUBJECT: BANGLADESH COMPLAINT TO UN ON FARAKKA BARRAGE

REF: DACCA 4414

1. BANGLADESH PERM REP KHWAJA MOHAMMED KAISER CALLED ON  
AMB SHERER SEPTEMBER 3 TO EXPLAIN BANGLADESH'S REQUEST FOR  
INCLUSION IN 31ST UNGA AGENDA OF AN ITEM ENTITLED, "QUESTION  
OF UNILATERAL DIVERSION OF WATERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RIVER  
GANGES, IN CONTRAVENTION OF ALL INTERNATIONAL LAWS AND REGULA-  
TIONS AND TRADITIONAL USAGES AND IN VIOLATION OF SOLEMN PLEDGES  
ON THE USE OF SUCH WATERS." KAISER BRIEFLY REVIEWED HISTORY  
OF TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF DISCUSSION WITH INDIA, AND ECONOMIC  
IMPACT OF THE DIVERSION OF WATERS BY THE FARAKKA BARRAGE. HE  
ATTRIBUTED POLITICAL MOTIVATIONS IN INDIA IN UTILIZING GANGES  
WATERS TO FLUSH OUT SILT IN RIVER APPROACHES TO CALCUTTA IN LIEU  
OF LESS COSTLY DREDGING, IMPLYING THAT INDIA INTENDS TO  
DOMINATE BANGLADESH.

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PAGE 02 USUN N 03567 041601Z

2. KAISER STATED THAT BANGLADESH PREFERS TO TREAT PROBLEM AS POLITICAL MATTER IT IS, RATHER THAN AS A LEGAL ISSUE. BANGLADESH JUST WANTS ITS RIGHTFUL SHARE OF THE GANGES WATER FOR ECONOMIC SURVIVAL. IT IS HOPE OF THE GBD TO HAVE THIS ISSUE INSCRIBED AS A POLITICAL ITEM ON AGENDA OF THE 31ST GA. HE ASKED FOR US SYMPATHY, UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THIS URGENT PROBLEM. WITH ADVENT OF THE DRY SEASON IN BANGLADESH IN A FEW MONTHS, THE HUMAN AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WILL BECOME PRESSING WITHOUT THE GANGES WATER.

3. AMB SHERER REPLIED THAT THE US CERTAINLY SUPPORTS BANGLADESH'S RIGHT TO INSCRIBE THE ISSUE ON THE AGENDA, THOUGH WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE AFFAIR COULD BE SETTLED BILATERALLY. THE TEXT OF ANY SUBSEQUENT RESOLUTION WOULD HAVE TO BE EXAMINED CAREFULLY BEFORE THE US COULD RENDER A DECISION ON SUPPORT. KAISER EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THESE ANSWERS.

4. KAISER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIS CALL WAS A FOLLOW-UP ON THE MEETING IN DACCA REPORTED RETEL. HE SAID THAT HE IS BRINGING THE GBD POSITION TO THE ATTENTION OF ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES OF UN GENERAL COMMITTEE BY A SERIES OF CALLS ON UN MISSION.

5. FOR DACCA: KAISER DESCRIBED IN GLOWING TERMS THE GOOD RELATIONS AMB BOSTER HAS BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP WITH THE BANGLADESH LEADERSHIP.  
BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BANGLADESH COMPLAINT TO UN ON FARAKKA BARRAGE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PORG, BG, IN, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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